

M/037/088

LISBON VALLEY COPPER MINE PROJECT

Public Scoping Meeting

MOAB MEETING 11/1/95
MONTICELLO MEETING 11/2/95

**Presented by
Bureau of Land Management**

November 1995

Agenda

- 7:00 pm BLM Presentation on the Scoping Process
.....Lynn Jackson
- 7:15 pm Summo Presentation on the Lisbon Valley Copper Mine Project
.....Bob Prescott
.....Pat Gochnour
- 7:45 pm Open Format for Public Questions and Comments
.....Chris Paulsen, Woodward-Clyde
.....Peter O'Connor, Westec

Introduction

Pursuant to section 102(2)C of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Moab Field Office, will be directing the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to be prepared by a third-party contractor on the potential impacts of Summo USA Corporation's (Summo) proposed Lisbon Valley Open Pit Copper Mine. The proposed project would be located on approximately 1030 acres of federal, state, and private lands located in San Juan County, Utah (Figure 1).

Project Description and Background

History

Copper was discovered in the Lisbon Valley area in the late 1800's and intermittent exploration and small scale mining activities from open pit and underground operations occurred until the mid 1970's. Records for this period indicate that approximately 2.5 million pounds of copper was produced from at least five oxide deposits in the Lisbon Valley. Today, approximately 85 acres of this site show evidence of historical mining activity in the form of abandoned pits, stockpiles and overburden dumps that were never reclaimed.

In 1993, Summo purchased the property and continued exploration drilling and testing. Summo then completed a feasibility study and submitted a Plan of Operations to the BLM in August 1995.

Mining

Summo, a subsidiary of Summo Minerals Corporation, proposes to develop an open pit copper mining and heap leaching operation in south Lisbon Valley, located approximately 19 miles southeast of LaSal. Summo desires to complete permitting by September 1996, and

begin construction in the first quarter of 1997. Full scale operations are projected for October 1997.

The copper ore will be mined at four pits by conventional open pit mining methods utilizing drilling, blasting and ripping of the ore and associated overburden. The overburden will be removed and stockpiled and the ore will be loaded with front end loaders onto haul trucks. The ore will be trucked to a centralized pad area, where it will be crushed and stacked. The copper will then be recovered by a heap leaching method, utilizing low concentrations of sulfuric acid. The leached copper solution will be further refined by standard solvent extraction and electrowinning processes. The facilities are designed to mine up to 16,500 tons of ore per day to produce 17,000 tons of 99.99 pure copper cathodes per year.

Summo will employ up to 105 people at one time over the life of the project. The construction work force will be approximately 80 people. Mining will occur 24 hours per day, 7 days a week throughout the projected 10 year mining life. Processing will continue for an additional year after mining ceases. To the extent possible, reclamation will occur simultaneously with mining. Final closure and reclamation activities will take approximately 5 years.

Reclamation

Reclamation plans include both concurrent and post-mining activities to mitigate potential adverse effects on the environment, minimize public safety hazards, and return the site to existing land uses that are currently emphasized; wildlife habitat, livestock grazing, and mineral development.

During site preparation, disturbed areas will be contoured to minimize erosion and provide adequate drainage, and erosion control structures will be installed to prevent accelerated erosion and sedimentation of surface drainages. Additionally, coversoil material will be salvaged and stockpiled for final reclamation activities. Throughout the life of the mine,

areas no longer needed will be reclaimed and revegetated to meet the post-mining land use.

Final reclamation will include the removal of all equipment and facilities, and revegetation of the facility areas. At the open pits, public access will be blocked with rock berms or fences, and the entrances will be planted with indigenous species. Haul roads providing access to the bottom of the pits will be revegetated. The four waste rock piles will be graded, the top surfaces contoured, coversoil applied and the areas revegetated with an approved grass, forb, and shrub mix.

The heap leach pad will be rinsed, drained and recontoured. The surface of the pad will be compacted. Lime or other commercially available products may be added, if needed, to minimize infiltration. This material will then be covered with a layer of waste rock to provide an adequate root zone. Coversoil would be applied, and the area revegetated with a seed mix of grasses, forbs, and shallow root shrubs.

Reclamation of the solution and stormwater ponds will involve evaporation and, if necessary, treatment of process and stormwater solutions. Following this the liners will be folded in. Overburden will be placed over the liner system and the areas will be graded and revegetated.

Post closure monitoring by Summo will be required to ensure successful reclamation and compliance with permit standards.

Environmental Impact Statement

As required by NEPA, the EIS will provide a full and fair discussion of significant environmental impacts and shall inform decision-makers and the public of reasonable alternatives which would avoid or minimize adverse impacts or enhance the quality of the human environment. The EIS will include details of the proposed project and any feasible alternatives, describe the current site conditions, and evaluate socioeconomic impacts and

potential environmental impacts from the proposed operation and alternatives to the following resources:

Geology
Hydrology
Socioeconomics
Hazardous Materials
Recreation

Cultural Resources
Noise Impacts
Transportation
Visuals
Land Use

Vegetation
Wildlife
Sensitive Species
Air Quality
Soils

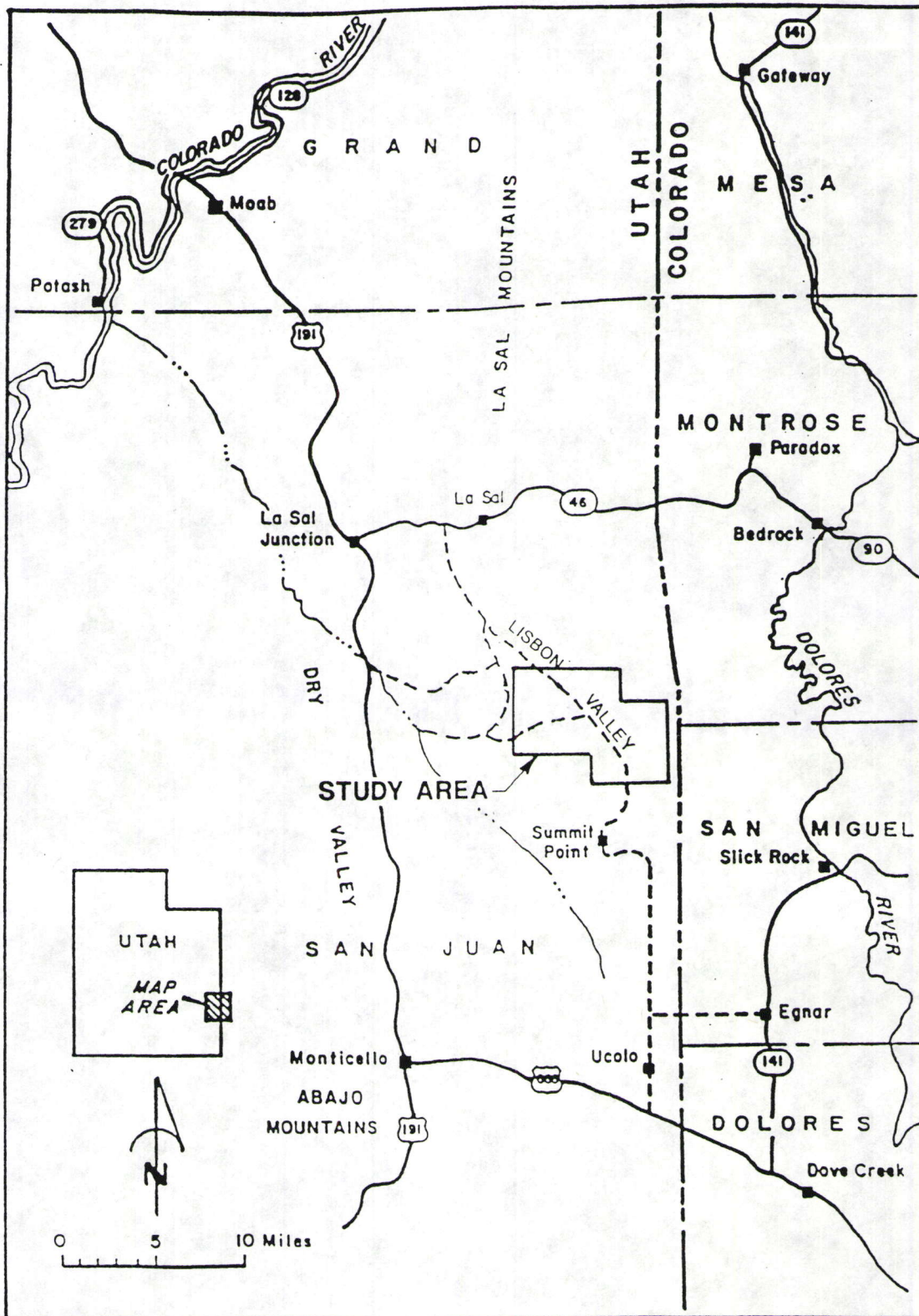
Scoping Process

As required by NEPA, an early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed project, is necessary. This process, termed scoping, is for information-gathering from the public and interested agencies early in a proposed project. The objective is to identify the scope of issues to be addressed in the ensuing environmental studies and impact analysis. Scoping serves to: (1) identify significant issues to be analyzed, (2) suggest the level of detail with which they should be treated in the EIS and (3) eliminate issues and alternatives from detailed study where appropriate. Information received from the public during scoping also provides a basis for identifying alternatives, developing the work plan for studying existing conditions, conducting the impact assessment, and planning for mitigation.

Scoping activities for the Lisbon Valley project include:

- Conducting public scoping meetings in Moab and Monticello
- Collecting written comments from members of the public by November 30, 1995
- Identification of environmental issues and economic impacts of the proposed mine development
- Identification of alternative technologies or facilities locations for the proposed project

This information will be incorporated into the Draft EIS, which is scheduled for public availability in the spring of 1996.



LOCATION MAP
LISBON VALLEY AREA
SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH

Lisbon Valley Copper Mine Project

Your comments or suggestions can assist us in the proper development of the mining project discussed at this meeting. Space is provided below to write out any comments you may wish to make. You may hand in your statement at the end of this meeting or, if you prefer, mail it to the address printed below.

COMMENT OR STATEMENT

Please print legibly:

Name _____

Address _____

Representing

Signature_____

Date _____

Mail your written comments to the following address, no later than November 30, 1995

Ms. Kate Kitchell
District Manager
Bureau of Land Management
82 East Dogwood, Suite M
Moab, Utah 84532